

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- MP
10/11/06
Please
Enter
58
10/2006
1. (Currently Amended) A coupling unit, comprising:
a connecting area for connecting to a transmitting and/or receiving module;
a holding sleeve configured to receive an optical fiber within the holding sleeve; and
a transparent coupling area configured for directly contacting the optical fiber and for directly coupling light between the optical fiber and the optical transmitting and/or receiving module when the optical fiber is inserted into said holding sleeve and the optical transmitting and/or receiving module is connected to said connecting area; and
a horizontally running base plate formed with said coupling area therein, said base plate having an upper face connected to said holding sleeve, a lower face connected to said connecting area, and a cutout passing through said base plate;
said transparent coupling area formed integral with said holding sleeve and said connecting area.
 2. (Previously Presented) The coupling unit according to claim 1, wherein:
said coupling area has a side facing said holding sleeve that forms a projecting stop surface for the optical fiber; and
said stop surface is for directly contacting a fiber core of the optical fiber when the optical fiber is inserted into said holding sleeve.
 3. (Previously Presented) The coupling unit according to claim 2, wherein:
said holding sleeve defines a longitudinal axis; and
said stop surface runs at right angles to said longitudinal axis of said holding sleeve.